

Application Serial No. 10/664,728
Filed September 19, 2003

REMARKS

With entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 18 and 23-54 are pending.

Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 18 and 23-47 have been allowed. Claims 3-9, 12-17 and 19-22 have been canceled. Independent claims 1, 18, 39, 43 and 46 have been amended. Dependent claims 48-54 have been added, as explained below, to repeat the language of certain allowed dependent claims with regard to allowed independent claims 39, 43 and 46. No new matter is added. Favorable consideration is requested.

The issue fee is due February 20, 2007 and has not yet been paid.

The foregoing amendments with regard to independent claims 1, 18, 39, 43 and 46 are made to provide an antecedent basis for certain claim terms and to clarify claim language.

Consideration and entry of these amendments does not involve a substantial amount of additional work by the PTO. No additional searching or examination is required.

These amendments were not presented earlier, in part, because they are submitted in response to an Examiner's Amendment which accompanied the Notice of Allowance in this application. The amendments also place the application in better condition for issuance.

In particular, claim 1 has been amended to provide an antecedent basis for "the pocket." Moreover, "holding" has been amended to -- guiding -- to more accurately recite the function of the ball guide fingers. Support for this amendment is found at:

Page 1, lines 6-7 -- "fingers therein adapted to guide and control the movement of a lacrosse ball in and out of the head."

Page 6, lines 25-26 -- "fingers 48 serve several different ball guidance, holding and control functions."

Page 8, lines 28 -- "a plurality of individual ball guidance and control fingers 148."

Similar amendments have been made, as appropriate, in claims 18, 39, 43 and 46.

In addition, in claims 1, 39, 43 and 46, "a net" has been amended to -- the net -- as a minor grammatical correction.

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Newly Added Dependent Claims 48-54

Applicants wish to repeat the language of allowed dependent claims 31, 32 and 37 (which depend from claim 1) with respect to independent claims 39, 43 and 46, where possible. Of these, claims 48 and 50 are substantially identical to claim 31; claims 49, 51 and 53 are substantially identical to claim 32 (antecedent basis is provided for the fingers' upper ends); and claims 52 and 54 are substantially identical to claim 37.

Consideration and entry of the additional dependent claims does not involve a substantial amount of additional work by the PTO. No additional searching or examination is required, and no new matter is added.

Please charge our Deposit Account No. 15-0508 in the amount of \$350.00 to cover the additional filing fees for dependent claims 48-54. If that amount is incorrect, please charge the correct amount to our above-identified Deposit Account.

COMMENTS RELATING TO EXAMINER'S REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

It is respectfully requested that the word "holding" be changed to -- guiding -- in the reasons for allowance to conform with the final claim language in view of the foregoing amendments.

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

February 14, 2007

By: 

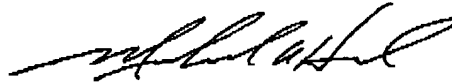
Michael A. Hierl (Reg. No. 29,807)

OLSON & HIERL, LTD.
20 North Wacker Drive
36th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 580-1180
Attorney for Applicants

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, at facsimile number (571) 273-8300 on February 14, 2007.



Michael A. Hierl